

enters affecting labor, covering the the and such other information that will benefit the trade union.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1924.

TRADE UNIONS' FIGHT FOR HIGH WAGES IS PATRIOTIC EFFORT

Annual reports of federal officials and commissions call attention to the workers' increased purchasing power, through high wages. It is acknowledged that this purchasing power is one of the major factors in the nation's prosperity.

The federal reserve board, in its annual report, says:

"A national income larger than in 1922, arising both out of increased earnings of factory workers and larger proceeds from the sale of farm products, furnished the buying power to absorb the year's increased output of goods."

In other words, but for high wages in factory, mine and transportation, and "larger proceeds from the sale of farm products," the year's increased output of goods would not be sold, and factories would close because of an overstocked market.

To organized labor this is an old story. Times without number the work-

ers have insisted that if their buying capacity is curtailed, less consumption follows.

Less consumption means a lowering of living standards, no schooling for the children and a reorganization of the home because every member must become a wage earner.

These propositions are so easily understood and so vital to the country's welfare that they should become national dogmas. Every wage reducer should be held up to public scorn.

Cheap man-power destroys the prosperity that employers are constantly striving to develop.

Labor production is possible through labor-saving devices, skilled management and the application of science, but cheap labor is of no benefit to either employer or to the country. This labor neither produces nor consumes.

In his annual report Secretary of Commerce Hoover states that but 6 per

cent of the nation's productivity is exported to Europe and South America. This means that the people of the United States consume all but a small portion of their production.

This is possible because the American trade union movement has insisted on high wage standards.

There is a so-called "intellectual" element in this country that is distressed over labor's continuous fight for high wages. This element sees no difference between a high-wage worker and a low-wage worker, and would have the former believe they are wasting their energies.

The organized worker rejects the so-called "intellectual" and this is the reason for the latter's continuous attacks on the trade union movement. "Intellectual" is welcomed, there is progress—according to the "intellectual."

The beneficial effect of labor's wage stand has been well stated by Frank

Hodges, secretary of the Coal Miners' Federation of Great Britain. Speaking before the last A. F. of L. convention the British trade unionist said:

"The very fact that you have been able to wage war at the maximum has been possible for you, within the confines of your own country, to eliminate unemployment to a very great extent, because your people have been able, by the fact that they have the spending power in their pockets, to keep industries going at their maximum capacity; while in England and in Europe generally, because wages have fallen, and we have permitted them to fall, unemployment has increased, industries languish, business has come to a standstill, and the latter state is infinitely worse than the first."

The benefits of high wages are diffused throughout the nation. The men and women who wage the fights and the sacrifices for these standards are patriots in the true sense.

Compared with them the Gaieties and other flag wavers look ridiculous with their cheap-wage plea.

OPPOSE CENTRALIZED EDUCATION; TOO MUCH MACHINERY HARMFUL

DEFECTIVE ENGINES USED ON RAILROADS

Washington, Jan. 5.—The shop men of the railroad industry are protesting against the use of defective locomotives and engines maintained in service by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Following the shop men's strike there was a great increase in locomotive accidents. These accidents in 1923 totaled 1,348, an increase of 11 per cent over 1922.

Accidents in 1923 were 72, an increase of 118 per cent over 1922. The total number of injured was 1,560, an increase of 120 per cent.

A sufficient number of locomotives in service to replace those that are defective and competent boiler makers are apparently not being trained.

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FREE SPEECH RIGHTS

Washington, Jan. 5.—Opposition to anti-syndicalist statutes and federal action laws featured an address by Senator Charles McNary at a meeting of the American sociological society in New York.

The speaker pointed out that the law is intended to protect the individual from the syndicate, but it is the syndicate that is the real danger to the individual.

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COAL OWNERS' CHEAT—SO DO COAL DEALERS

Boston, Jan. 5.—The device of coal dealers and railroads to cheat the labor and the public was declared by Governor Siler of New Jersey before the Boston Rotary Club. The speaker indicted coal merchants of this city in his indictment.

Among the charges he made were:

Company coal is controlled by nine railroad and three coal companies who refuse to sell coal to the public.

They keep down the output so that dealers must buy independent coal at a premium of \$2 per ton.

Many company coal is diverted from the place of original shipment to be resold at a premium.

The anthracite business is a monopoly, but of ownership and operation. When the Pennsylvania fair price commission was in operation it prohibited the exportation of coal except at a certain price.

The companies complied with the commission, but when the price of \$10.50 a ton was fixed, the companies refused to sell at that price.

They provided he would agree to make them a rebate.

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

WHOLE NO. 665.

CHURCH MEN FAVOR WORLD-WIDE UNITY

Washington, Jan. 5.—The United States should join the league of nations or propose some more effective international body, declared the executive committee of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ at its recent meeting. The committee also favored this country joining the world court.

"The grim war-system still grips the world," the resolution declared. "Threatened and expensive preparations for war still go on. Endless wars are the final result for assuring national security, maintaining national honor and settling international disputes."

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OIL INDUSTRY UNMASKED; "SHORTAGE" CRY IS FAKE

New York, Jan. 5.—The great problem of the oil industry is not that of securing the earth's new oil fields; the industry needs new markets and more extended use of petroleum products, says H. H. Hays, president of the American Petroleum Institute, in the *Annalist*, financial paper, on the oil industry.

The writer charges, in effect, that all the stories of "oil shortages" are untrue, and that the cry of shortage is a device to keep the public in ignorance of the real situation.

American diplomacy has often been misled by the oil industry. The writer charges, in effect, that all the stories of "oil shortages" are untrue, and that the cry of shortage is a device to keep the public in ignorance of the real situation.

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LABOR MAY CONTROL BITTER TAX FIGHT ON

Washington, Jan. 5.—Congress has reconvened, following the holiday recess, and from now on the fight of the laborers will have the center of the stage, with tax reduction as the big center.

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SENIOR WILL HASTEN RESCUE OF CHILDREN

Washington, Jan. 5.—Expressing the hope that a report may be had from the children of the late Senator William H. Taft, the senator's son-in-law, Mr. Taft, has written President Gompers an outline of the status of the case.

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